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Land Use Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)

DuPage County Conference Room

Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Sears Tower, Chicago, Illinois

Members Present:

Judy Beck, Lisa DiChiera, Heather Tabbert, David Galowich, Nathaniel Werner, Paul Ivers (for Jerry Conrad), Robert Palmer, John Paige (for Karen Stonehouse), David Dubois, Roger Dahlstrom, Jim LaBelle, Kai Tarum, Heather Smith

Members Absent:

Mark Avery, Robert Cole, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Ed Paesel, Dennis Sandquist, Tim Savage, Nancy Williamson, Norm West

Staff Present:

Stephen Ostrander, Bob Dean, Erin Aleman, Kristin Heery, Russell Pietrowiak, Matt Stratton, Lee Deuben, Andrew Williams-Clark, Shana Alford, Matt Maloney, Jesse Elam

Others Present:

Paul Heltne (Center for Humans & Nature), Bill Eyring (Center for Neighborhood Technology), Mike Walczak (Northwest Municipal Conference), Robert Munson (CMAP Citizens Advisory Committee)

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 am

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

As Mark Avery (Chair) and Ed Paesel (Co-Chair) were unable to attend, Stephen Ostrander stood in as the committee chair.

3.0 Approval of Meeting Notes – January 21, 2009

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 21 meeting was made by Roger Dahlstrom and seconded by David Dubois. Judy Beck abstained due to not being at the January meeting. All in favor, the motion carried.

4.0 Legislative Update (including the Economic Recovery Act)

Bob Dean gave an update on the Federal Government's proposed Economic Recovery Act which was signed into law yesterday. Bob spoke specifically on the information that

CMAP has been providing to municipalities about what is going on. Almost all the money is going through existing programs. CMAP been sending out a weekly email on this Act. This week's email includes a letter to municipalities that outlines where funds may be available to them and through what programs. You can find all the information on CMAP's website here: http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/blog.aspx?blogid=872

5.0 Permeability as an indicator for stormwater and community health: Bill Eyring, CNT Bill, a senior engineer at CNT, gave a short presentation to the committee on permeability strategies and related CNT initiatives. Information on this and related CNT initiatives can be found here: http://www.cnt.org/natural-resources/, and more information about a few of the specific demonstration projects Bill mentioned can be found here: http://www.cnt.org/natural-resources/demonstration-projects/.

6.0 School Siting Strategy Overview: Russell Pietrowiak, CMAP

Russell gave a brief overview of some of the key findings of the School Siting Strategy paper. There has been a real difference in the way students get to school: What was once a place where students would ride bikes, buses and walk to has shifted to students mostly being driven to school (nationally). About 25% of vehicles on the road during the morning peak (6-9am) are school related trips. School campuses have been expanding especially in the suburbs – walking has become difficult to do because of this.

Municipal ordinances really seem to drive this, as they codify the size of the schools. Where do the codes derive from? The formula is outdated – no one went back and changed the codes. What should we consider? Biking and walking? Should sites be designed in a way that supports biking and walking?

Some of the recommendations this strategy paper makes are to revisit acreage requirements; create a toolkit to help bring together the right parties in the planning process; design schools as centers of communities; encourage students to walk and bike and work to ensure that 50% minimum can get to school these ways.

For more information or to comment on this report visit: http://www.goto2040.org/schoolsiting.aspx

Dahsltrom referenced school studies that NIU's Regional Development Institute had conducted. David Galowich suggested a need to revisit funding of schools, and mentioned that impact fees simply get passed on to the consumer. David also noted that there has been a tradition of siting schools according for maximum access to emergency services, which is often found at the front of a community, rather than in the center. Lisa DiChiera suggested that CMAP, and interested members of the committee, look at the report *School Siting and Sustainability in Illinois: Examining the Significance of School Location and Community-Centered Schools,* funded through a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and found on Governor Quinn's website at: http://www.standingupforillinois.org/green/school siting.php

Robert Palmer, with wide agreement from other members of the committee, requested that this strategy be brought back to the committee in March.

7.0 Parks Strategy Panel Meeting: Kristin Heery

Kristin Heery presented on a "sample program" for increasing parks in northeastern Illinois.

This presentation and related Question & Answer Responses are available here: https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/713365327

8.0 Next scheduled meeting: March 18th, 2009

9.0 Other Business

There was no other business.

10.0 Public Comment

Paul Heltne announced that CMAP has a new document for the DRI review process and brought copies of his analysis of this new DRI document for the committee

Judy Beck indicated that the Green Infrastructure Vision should be considered in DRI review.

11.0 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Palmer and seconded by Judy Beck. Meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Ostrander

(For Committee Liaison Ty Warner AICP)

Notes compiled with the assistance of Erin Aleman.